

FISCAL NOTE

Bill #: HB0488

Title: Revise penalty for political civil libel

Primary Sponsor: Gallik, D

Status: As Introduced

Sponsor signature	Date	David Ewer, Budget Director	Date
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Fiscal Summary

	<u>FY 2006 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2007 Difference</u>
Expenditures:		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Revenue:		
General Fund	\$0	\$0
Net Impact on General Fund Balance:	\$0	\$0

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov. Impact | <input type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 |

Fiscal Analysis

ASSUMPTIONS:

Commissioner of Political Practices

1. HB 488 would increase the potential liability for a person violating 13-37-131(1) or (2), MCA, from \$1,000 to \$4,000. Because the Commissioner's Office has had no complaints alleging a violation of the existing political libel statutes that resulted in a civil action being filed, it is impossible to estimate a revenue amount due to unknowns such as: the number of complaints that may be filed alleging a violation of 13-37-131(1) or (2), MCA, whether or not a violation is determined to have occurred, and if a violation is determined to have occurred, what the Court may levy as a fine. Any fines that are collected would go to the general fund.